



**JUP Conference, 21-22 June 2001**  
**Hosted by Ohio University**  
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# **“Experimental Study of Automation to Support Time-Critical Replanning Decisions”**

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**Sponsored by Office of Naval Research**



***“Experimental Study of Automation to Support  
Time-Critical Replanning Decisions”***

# **OVERVIEW:**

❖ **Problem Identification**

❖ **Experimental Design**

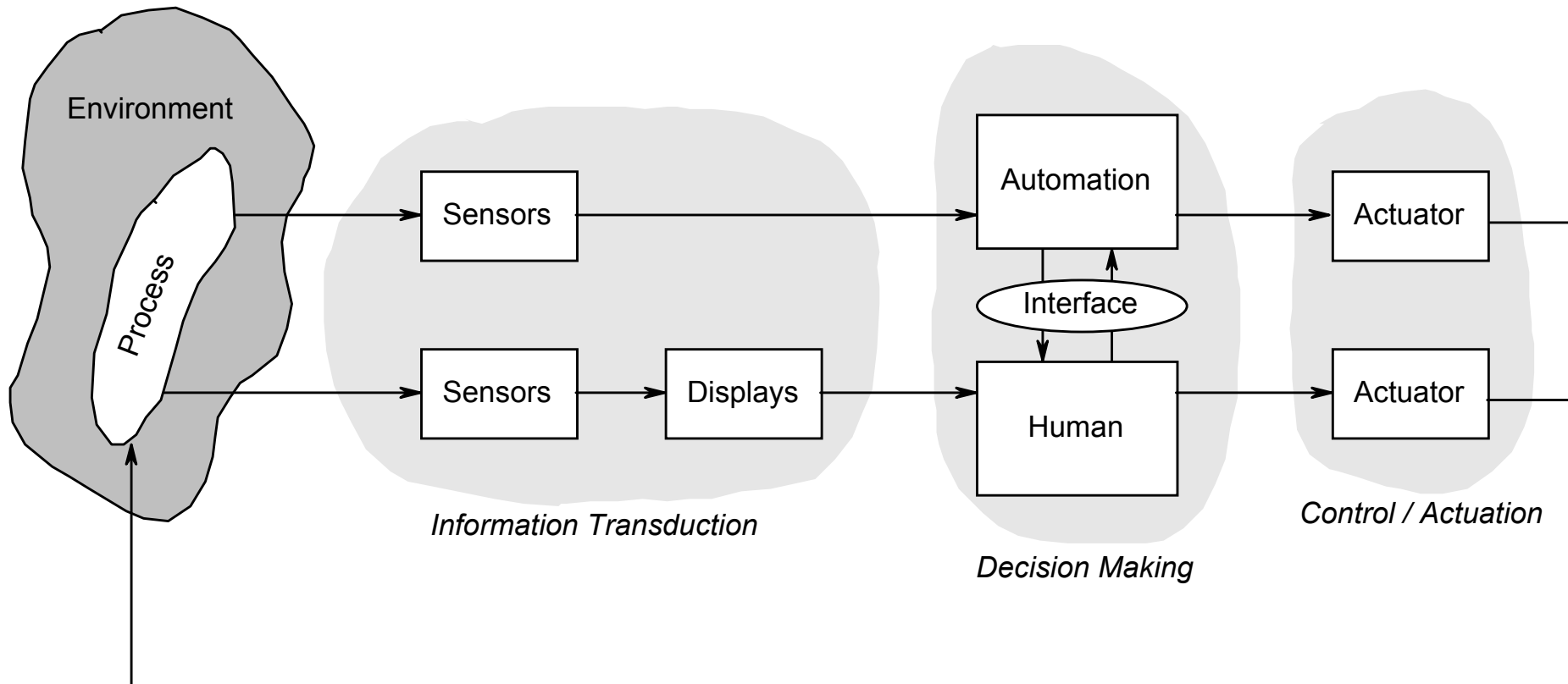
## **MOTIVATION:**

- **Decision-Making in Complex Environments**
- **Replanning Under Time Pressures**

## **PROBLEM UNIQUENESS:**

- **Automation will Never “See” Everything**
- **Difficulty in Quantifying a Solution’s Value**
  - Unstructured Aspects to Problem
  - Multiple Competing Interests & Goals for Solution

## Human-Automation Interaction in a Decision-Support Task





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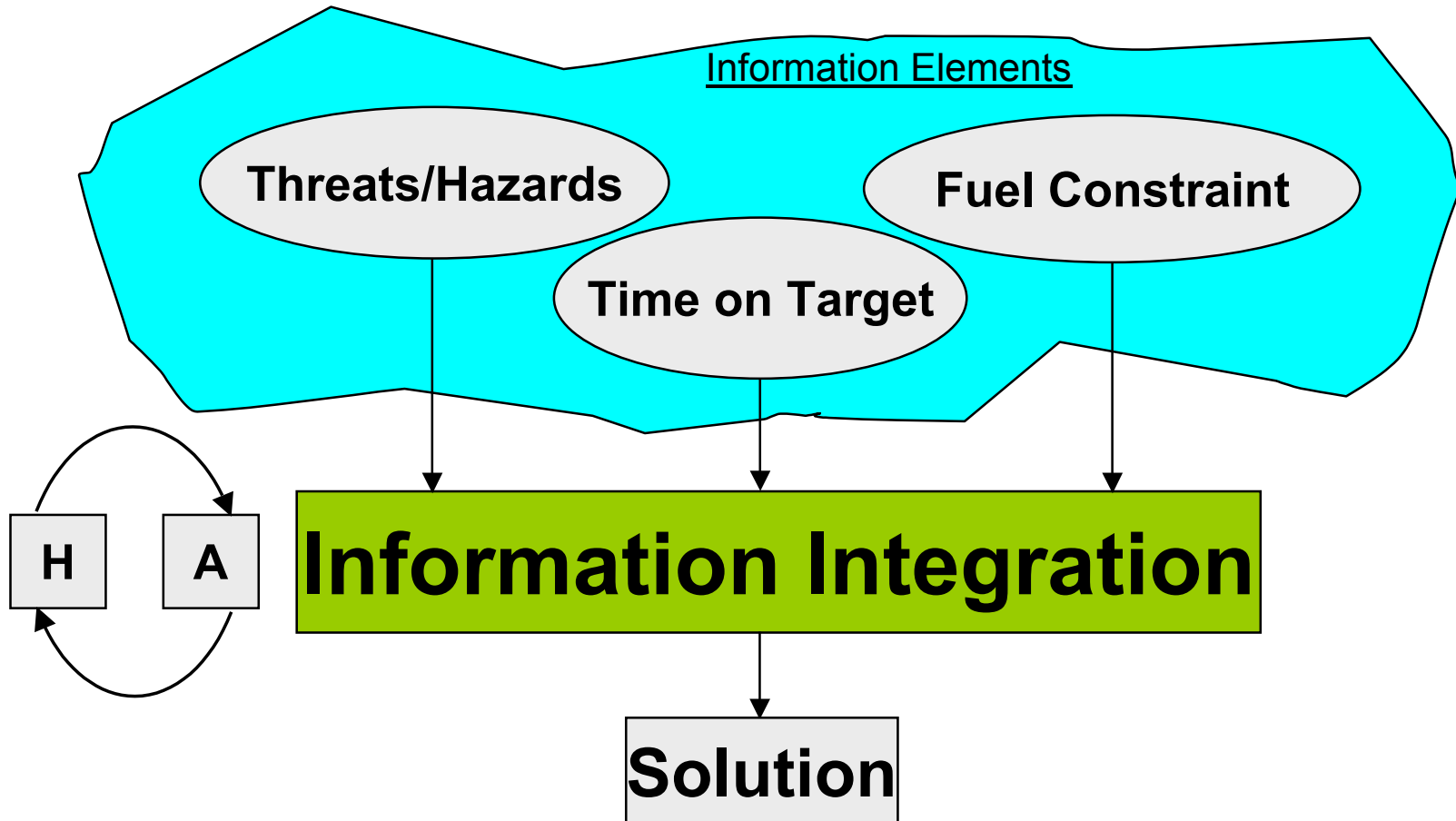
### **Example Applications:**

- Military Combat
- Aviation
- Medicine
- Chemical and Energy Production
- Finances

### **➤ Focus on “Real-Time In-Flight Replanning”**

- Route Replanning

# Replanning Task Characteristics





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# **QUESTION?**

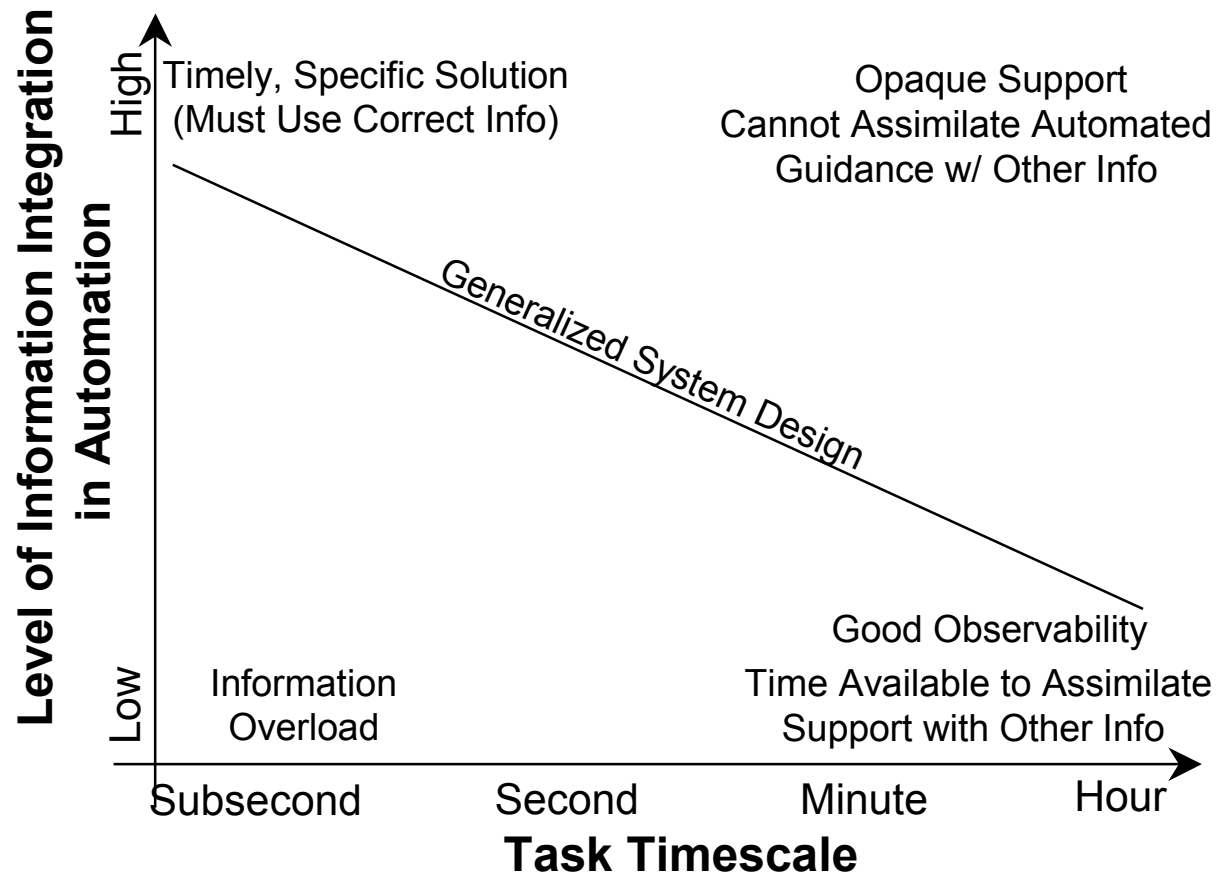
## **To What Degree should the Replanner Automation Filter and Integrate Information?**

- Take Advantage of Human’s Intuition and Ability to Integrate Diverse and Complex Information.
- Replanner Should Have “SMART” Automation Logic Based on Task and Time Pressures.

# **HYPOTHESIS:**

**As Time Pressure Decreases, More Integrated Automation Support May Hinder Pilot Performance.**

## **Notional Hypothesis of Interaction Between Information Integration & Task Timescale**





## **RESEARCH GOALS:**

1. Find a Quantifiable Relationship Between:
  - Time Pressures
  - Degree of Information Integration in Automation
  - Resulting Decision Performance
2. Build a Generalized Model of Decision Support Automation.
3. Identify Information Support Needs of Human



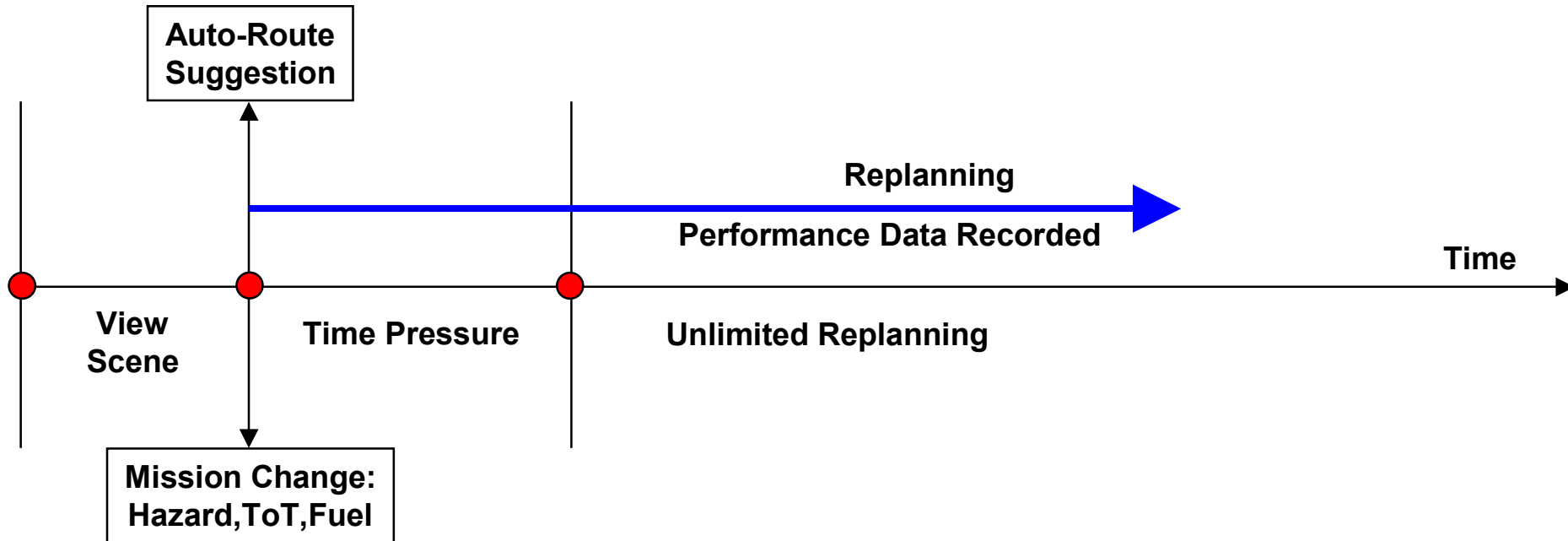
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# **EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN:**

## **Replanning Protocol:**

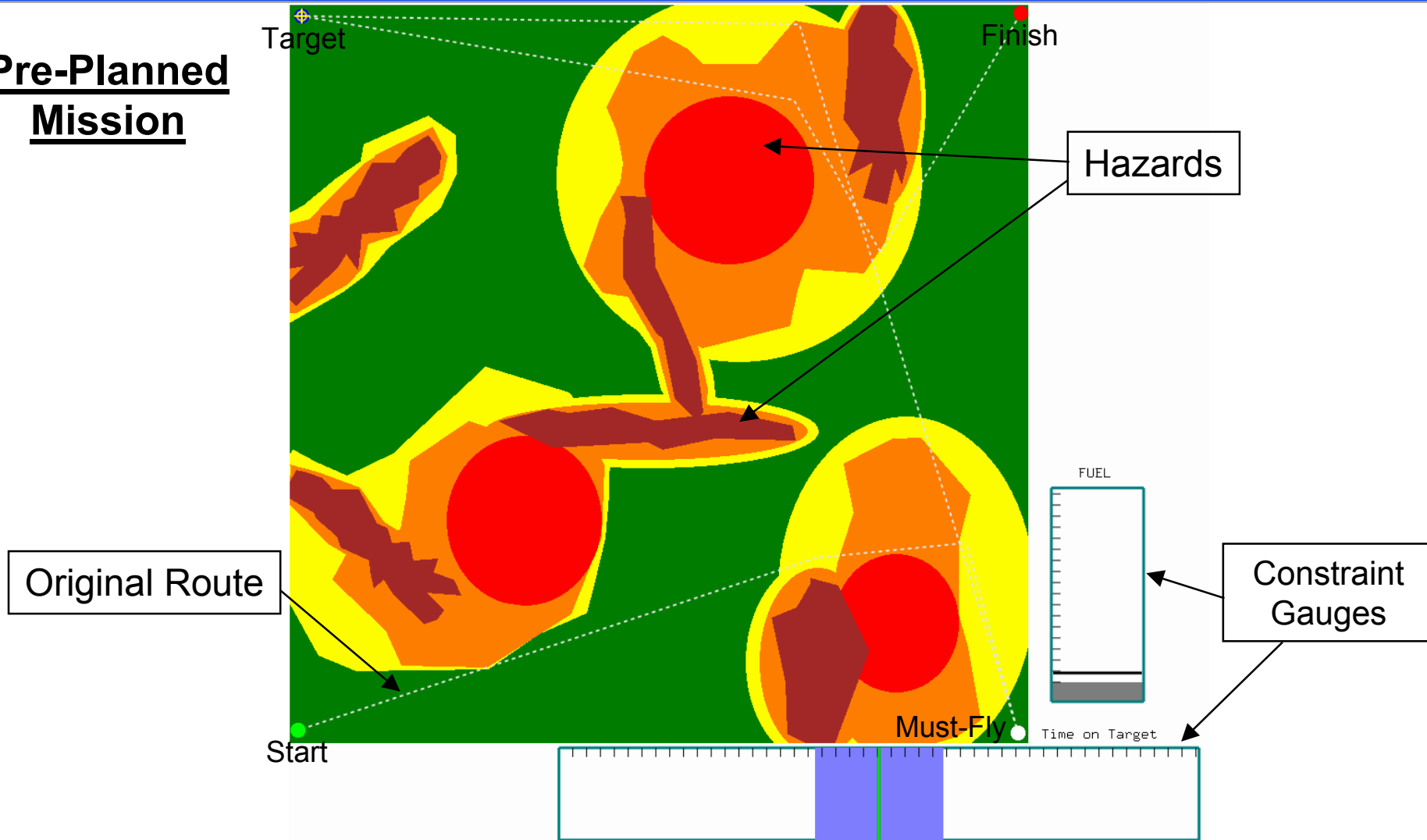
- View Preplanned Mission
- Change in Environment
  - Hazard, Time on Target, or Fuel Update
- Route Suggested with Varying Levels of Information Integration
- Subject Modifies Flight Plan Under Time Pressure
- Minimize Threat Exposure and Time on Target Deviation
- Meet Time on Target and Fuel Constraints

# Sequence of Events



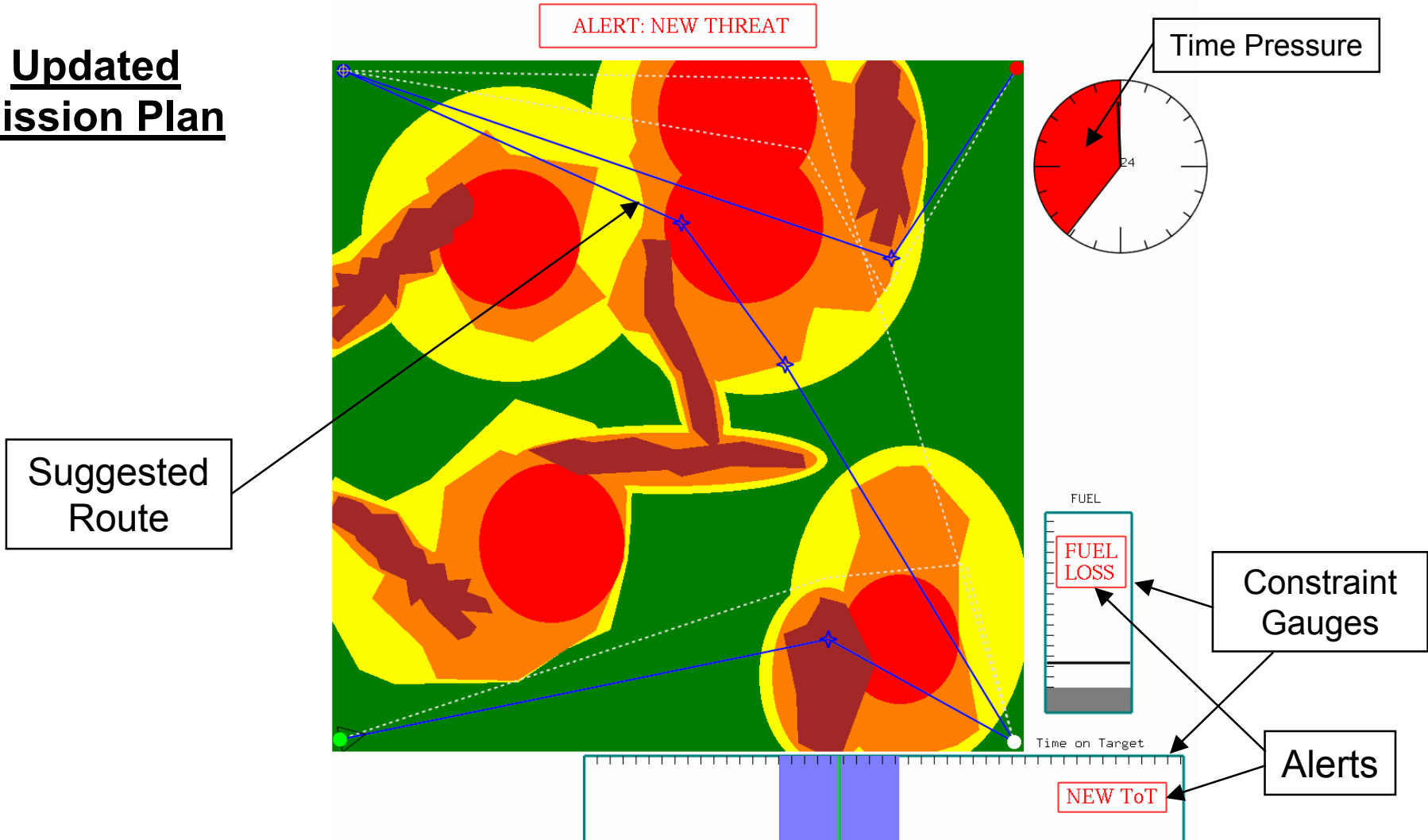
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## **Pre-Planned Mission**



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## **Updated Mission Plan**



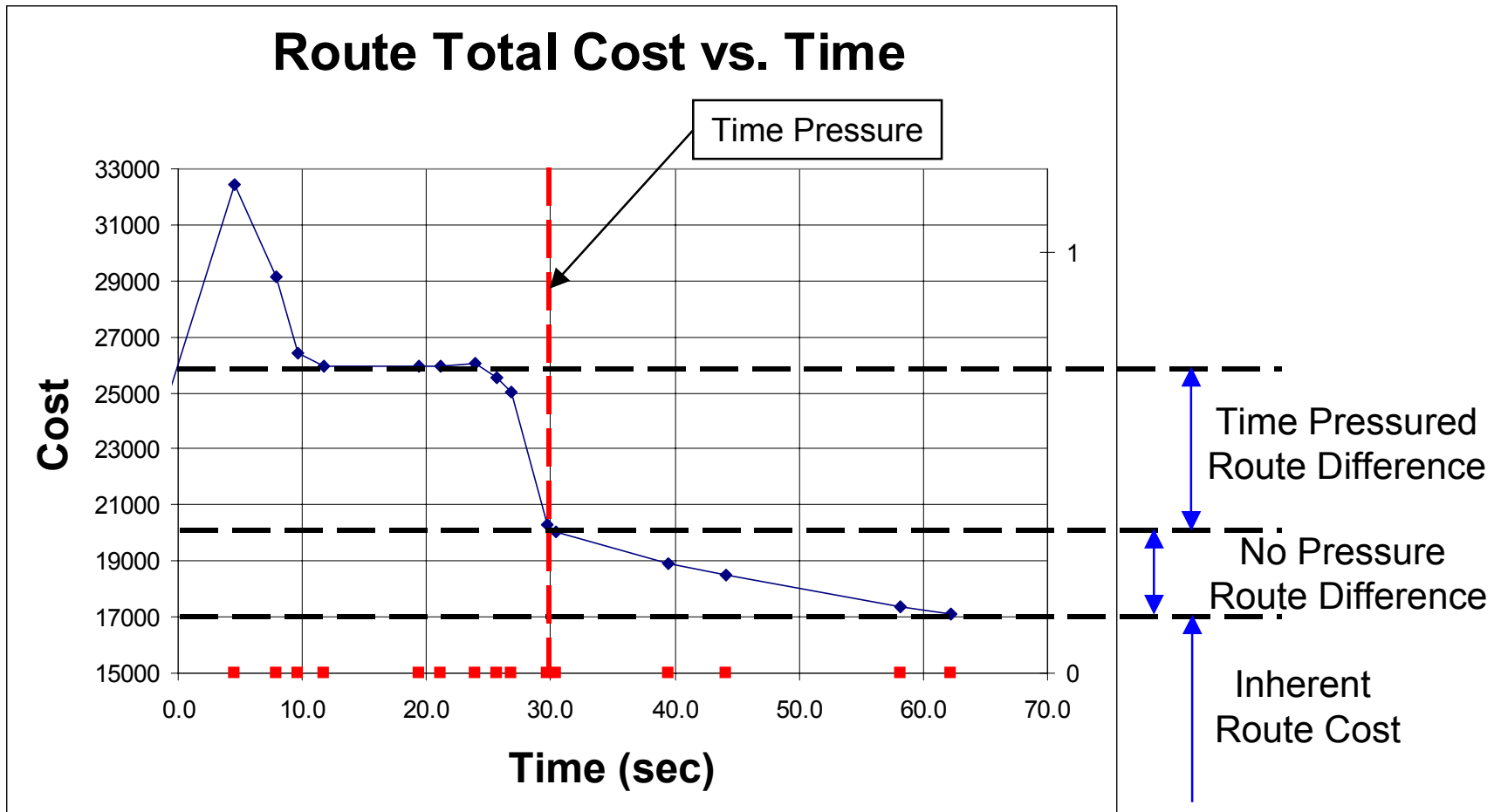
## COST FUNCTION:

$$\text{Cost}_{\text{Route}} = \text{Cost}_{\text{Hazard}} + \text{Cost}_{\text{ToT}}$$

$$\text{Cost}_{\text{Route}} = A \left[ \sum_{\text{Colors}} \left( \text{Length}_{\text{RouteSegment}} * \text{Cost}_{\text{Color}} \right) \right] + B \left[ a_1 * \left( \exp \left( b_1 * \left| \frac{t}{t_0} \right| \right) - 1 \right) \right]$$

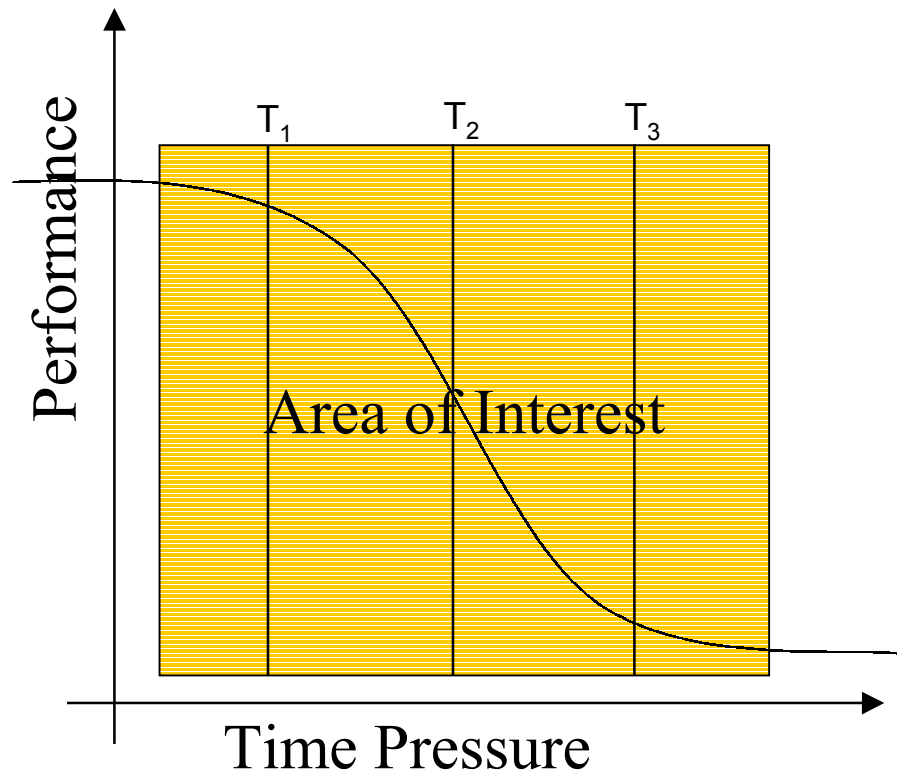
Fuel = Constraint

## Dependent Variable:



## INDEPENDENT VARIABLES:

Time Pressures (TBD):







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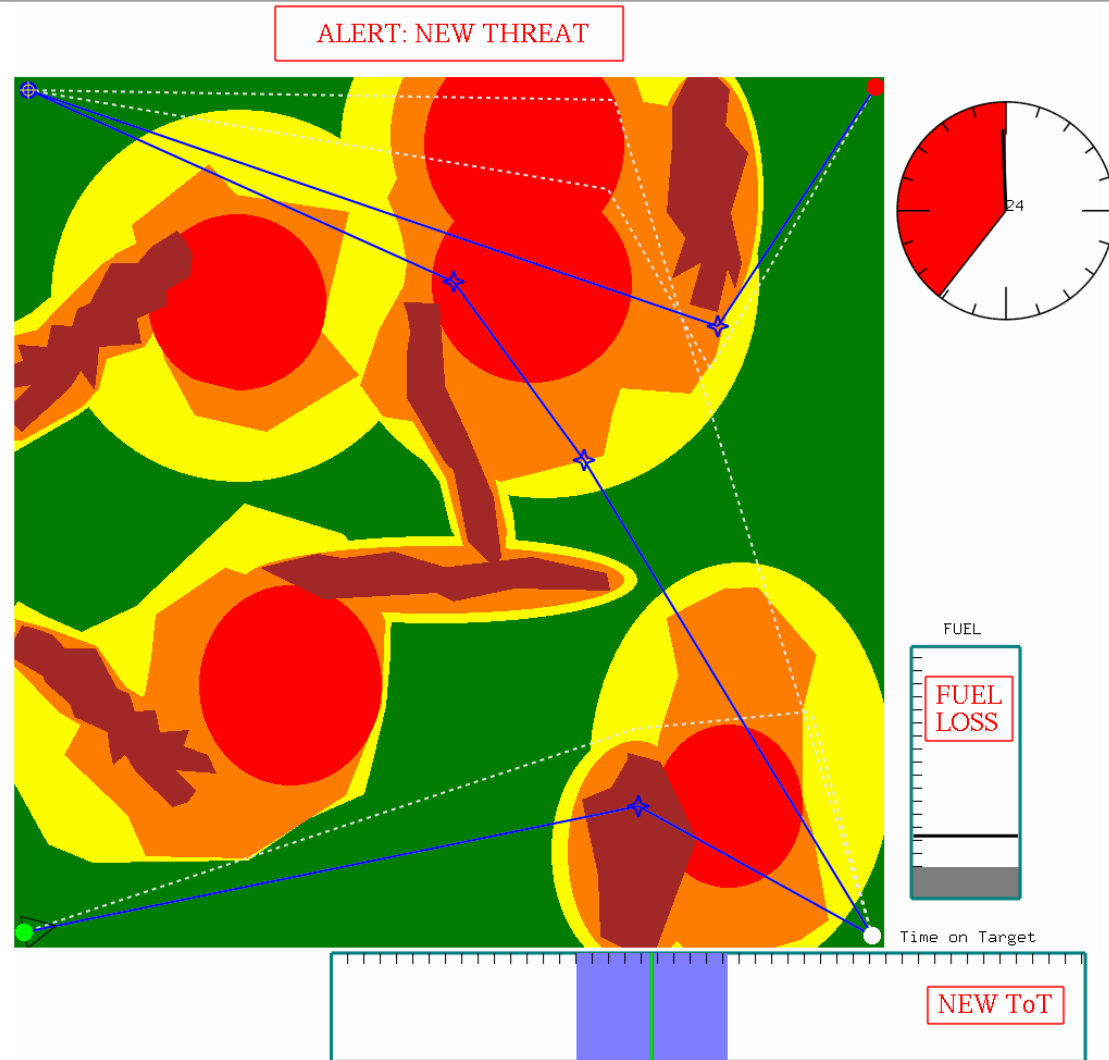
### **INDEPENDENT VARIABLES:**

#### **Information Elements Integrated by Automation**

1. No Automation, Manual Replan
  - Original Route Remains
2. Constraint Information Filtration Only
  - Route Modified to Optimize Time on Target Deviation & Satisfice Fuel Constraint
3. Threat Information Filtration Only
  - Route Modified to Avoid/Minimize Hazard Levels
4. Integration of Constraint + Threat Field Information
  - Route Minimizes Threat Exposure + Satisfices Time on Target and Fuel Constraints

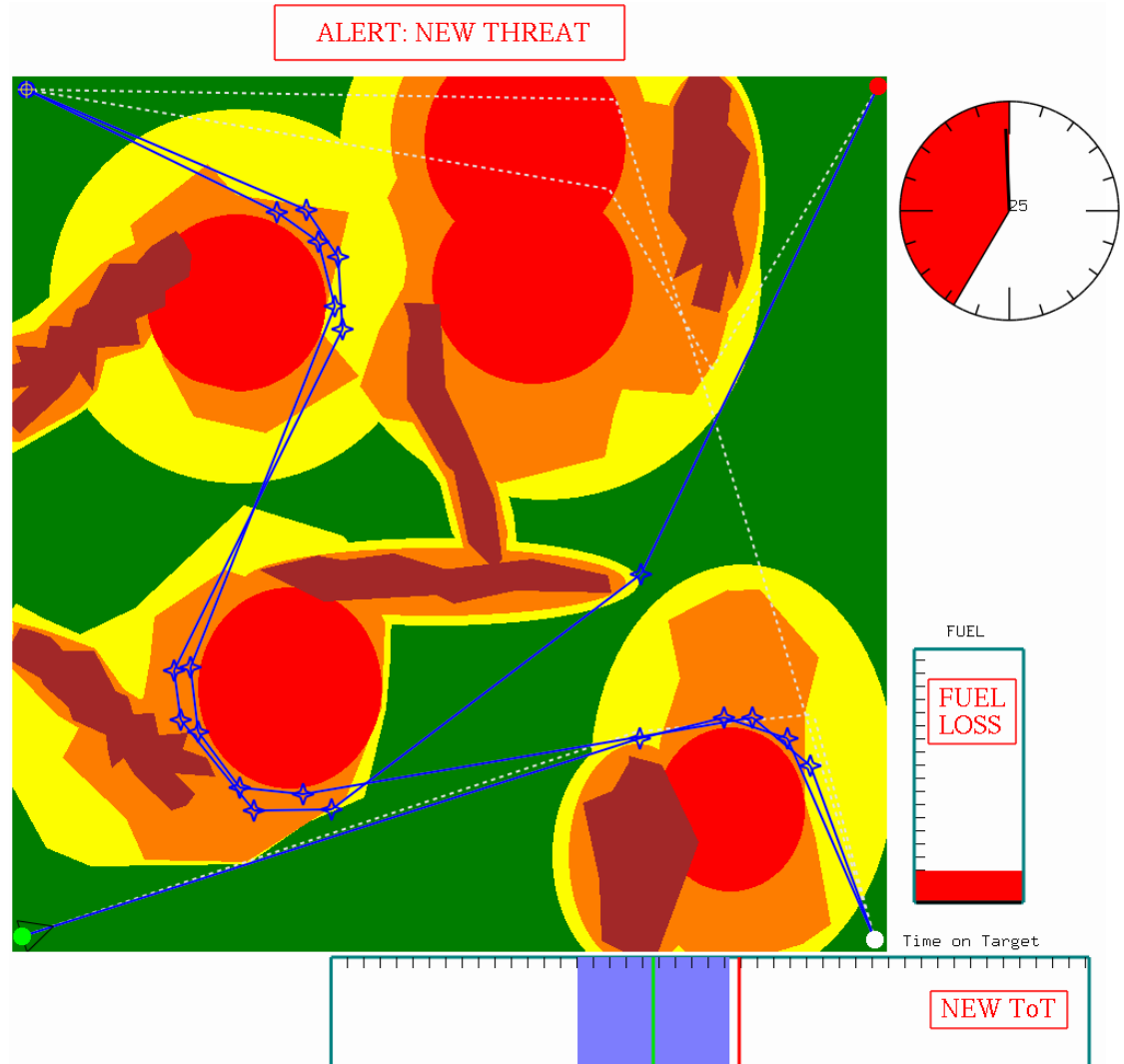
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Optimize ToT,  
Meet Fuel  
Constraint



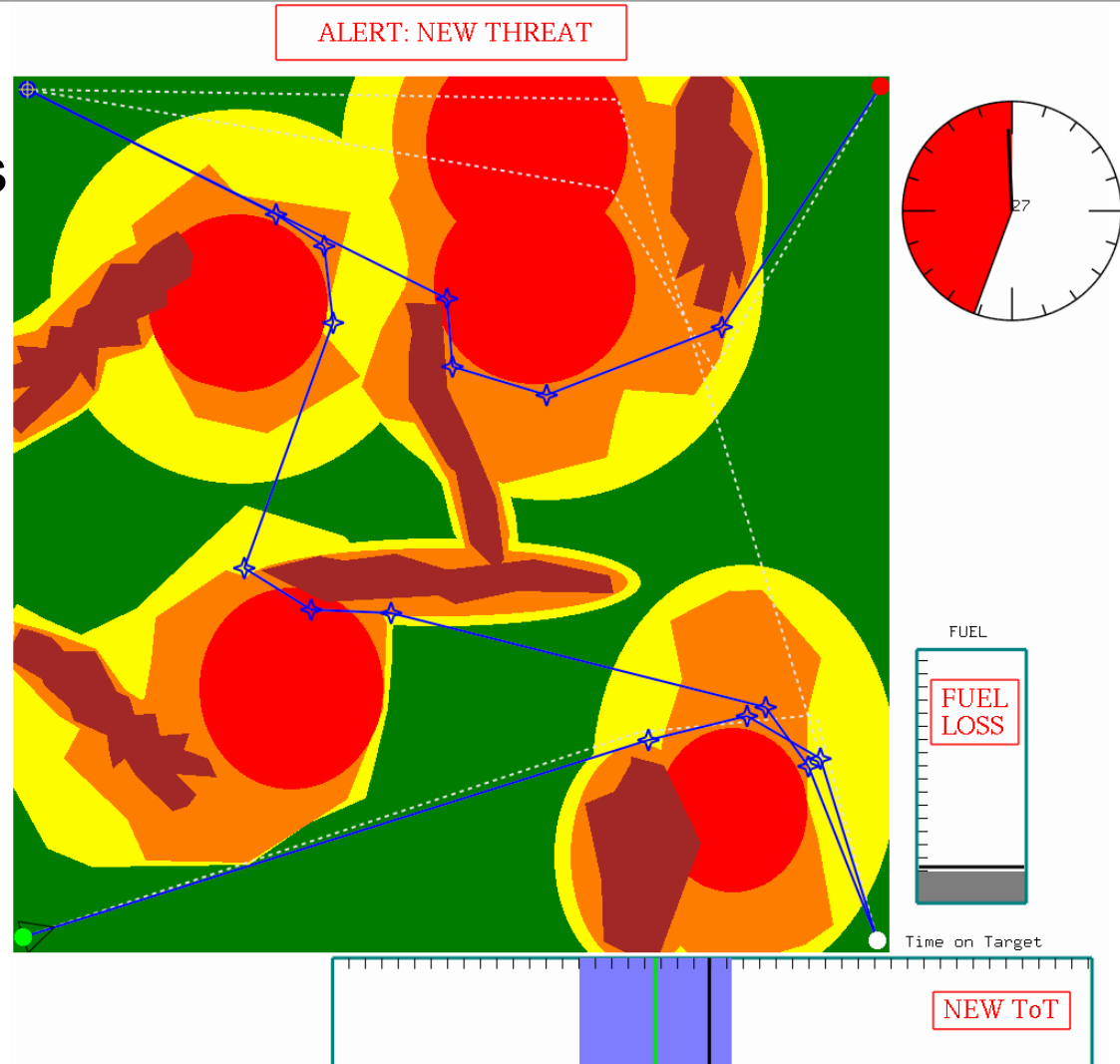
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Minimize Threat Exposure



# ***“Experimental Study of Automation to Support Time-Critical Replanning Decisions”***

Satisfice Constraints  
+  
Minimize Threat  
Exposure



## Experimental Test Matrix

		Information Automation			
		1	2	3	4
Time Pressures	a	●	●	●	●
	b	●	●	●	●
	c	●	●	●	●

3 by 4 Test Matrix

- Counterbalanced
- Scenarios of Similar Complexity
- Repeated-Measures Analysis of Variance



## ***“Experimental Study of Automation to Support Time-Critical Replanning Decisions”***

### **Status:**

- In-Flight Replanner Software Developed
- Generating Scenarios for Pilot Experiment

### **Future:**

- Run Data Collection w/ Subjects
- Refine Pilot Experiment for Formal Study

